

January 29, 2023

PRAYER LIVED



ORDER OF SERVICE

GATHERED BY GOD FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to Worship

Philippians 2:5-11

Songs of Praise

Rise

Compassion Hymn

Prayer of Adoration

RENEWED BY GOD THROUGH GRACE

Confession of Sin

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SET APART BY GOD

Offering

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The Lord's Supper

Profession of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

SENT BY GOD

Song of Response

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Blessing

READINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- Philippians 2:5-11 (*English Standard Version*)

SONGS

RISE

(Words and Music by Kari Jobe and Matt Bronleewe)

Lead us to You, show us Your mercy,
Your majesty lifted up on high;
It tells of Your goodness.

Your name is true, Your name is holy,
Your splendor is written in the skies;
It tells of Your greatness.

We will rise to praise You, offer our lives before You,

Let every nation, all of creation.

We will rise; You are worthy.

Lift up our eyes to Your glory,

Let every nation, all of creation. We will rise.

We stand in awe, You won the victory,
Your enemies tremble at Your name; it speaks of Your triumph.
You clothe the poor, You mend the broken,
You heal our hearts, You take our shame; it speaks of Your kindness.

We will cry out Your renown; You are the God who has saved us.

We will rise to praise You. We lift a glorious sound;

You are the one who redeemed us. We will rise to praise You.

SONGS

COMPASSION HYMN

(Words and Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Stuart Townend, 2008)

There is an everlasting kindness You lavished on us
When the radiance of heaven came to rescue the lost;
You called the sheep without a shepherd to leave their distress
For Your streams of forgiveness and the shade of Your rest.

And with compassion for the hurting, You reached out Your hand
As the lame ran to meet You and the dead breathed again;
You saw behind the eyes of sorrow and shared in our tears,
Heard the sigh of the weary, let the children draw near.

*What boundless love, what fathomless grace
You have shown us, O God of compassion!
Each day we live, an off'ring of praise
As we show to the world Your compassion.*

We stood beneath the cross of Calv'ry and gazed on Your face,
At the thorns of oppression and the wounds of disgrace;
For surely You have borne our suff'ring and carried our grief
As You pardoned the scoffer and showed grace to the thief.

How beautiful the feet that carry this gospel of peace
To the fields of injustice and the valleys of need
To be a voice of hope and healing, to answer the cries
Of the hungry and helpless with the mercy of Christ.

READINGS

CONFESSION OF SIN

¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. ¹⁷ The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses. ¹⁸ Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

- Psalm 25:16-18 *(English Standard Version)*

DECLARATION OF GRACE

⁶ Blessed be the Lord! For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.
⁷ The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

⁸ The Lord is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed. ⁹ Oh, save your people and bless your heritage! Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

- Psalm 28:6-9 *(English Standard Version)*

SONGS

GOD OF GRACE

(Words and Music by Keith Getty and Jonathan Rea, 2003)

God of grace, amazing wonder, irresistible and free;
Oh, the miracle of mercy Jesus reaches down to me.
God of grace, I stand in wonder, as my God restores my soul.
His own blood has paid my ransom; awesome cost to make me whole.

God of grace, who loved and knew me long before the world began;
Sent my Savior down from heaven; perfect God and perfect man.
God of grace, I trust in Jesus; I'm accepted as His own.
Every day His grace sustains me, as I lean on Him alone.

God of grace, I stand astounded, cleansed, forgiven, and secure.
All my fears are now confounded and my hope is ever sure.
God of grace, now crowned in glory, where one day I'll see Your face;
And forever I'll adore You in Your everlasting grace.

GRACE FLOWS DOWN

(Words & Music by David E. Bell, Louie Giglio, and Rod Padgett, 2000)

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound;
Amazing love, now flowing down
From hands and feet that were nailed to the tree
Grace flows down and covers me.

*It covers me, it covers me,
It covers me and covers me.*

READINGS

SCRIPTURE

⁶“I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. ⁸For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.”

- John 17:6-18 (*English Standard Version*)

REFLECTION QUESTIONS (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- Describe a time when you felt like God “equipped” you for something?
- Describe a time when you felt like God didn’t “equip” you for something?
- Read verses 7, 8, and 12. What are these about? How is God doing this with you today?
- Read Matthew 9:36-38. When you encounter someone who is not a Christian, how do you typically see them? How is God shaping the way you view those who do not believe?

SERMON OUTLINE

Equipping *John 17:6-18*

In Jesus' High Priestly Prayer we see that His mission in His earthly ministry was to receive a people, to equip a people, and to send a people. Second, when Jesus "equips" a people that means...

He helps us to understand Himself (John 17:6-18; John 10:11-18)

He helps us to understand ourselves (John 17:6-18; Romans 8:33-39)

He helps us to understand the world (John 17:6-18; Matthew 9:36-38)

— REFLECTION QUOTES —

The moment we begin to feel satisfied that we are making some progress along the road of sanctification, it is all the more necessary to repent and confess that all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags. Yet the Christian life is not one of gloom, but of ever increasing joy in the Lord. God alone knows our good works; all we know is His good work.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

- John 10:11-18 (*English Standard Version*)

³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Romans 8:33-39 (*English Standard Version*)

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

- Matthew 9:36-38 (*English Standard Version*)

READINGS

PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLE'S CREED

Although not written by the apostles, the Apostle's Creed is a concise summary of their teachings. It originated as a baptismal confession, probably in the second century, and developed into its present form by the sixth or seventh century.

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

* ("catholic" means "world-wide" in scope rather than regional or sectarian)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAMILY MEXICO MISSION TRIP: Info meeting today at 11:30am in the Seminar Room. The Family Mexico Mission trip is a great opportunity to serve the Lord and the people of Mexico with your immediate family and your Valley Springs family. The trip is from 7/17/23 to 7/24/23. Secure your spot(s) on the trip right now, by paying a \$100 deposit per person. Don't wait! Designate checks "Family Mexico Trip". Registration deposits are due by March 15th. Contact: Marcel Weiland (marcelweiland@comcast.net).

AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED! We are looking for donations of items to be sold at our 2023 Missions Auction! Get your spring cleaning done early. We need donations of good, sale-able items like (new) small appliances, housewares, unused gift cards, artwork, collectibles, and the like. Do you have an awesome cabin or timeshare? Do you perform a service professionally? We can auction those off too! Physical items can be dropped off at the office. Donations will be accepted until Friday, February 24th. For more information, contact Isaac Noschka (isaac@valleysprings.org / (916) 786-7940 x140).

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS: Everyone is invited for a shared meal each Wednesday night in February. Join us any Wednesday, at 6pm, in the Worship Room.

FRONT PORCH DINER WITH ICC: Join our friends from ICC (Iranian Christian Church) for a Front Porch Diner on Sunday, February 12th! We'll meet right after the service for food and fellowship. Pot-luck only; please bring either a main dish and a side, or a main dish and a dessert.

MISSIONS AUCTION: Join us for a night of great food, great fellowship, and great fun(draising!) at the 2023 Missions Auction! Saturday, March 11th at 5pm. In addition to supporting our annual Mexico Mission trip, this year we are also raising funds to expand our local and global outreach, in partnership with Youth For Christ, Capital Community Athletics, Reformed University Fellowship, and Asocaviva (Guatemala well drilling). Childcare available, 3 years though Grade 5. Tickets: \$30 per person, available at valleysprings.org/auction.

For more information, visit www.valleysprings.org

OUR MISSION

Valley Springs Presbyterian Church is an intergenerational community of grace, learning to love God, and serve our world, together.

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CARE MINISTRIES & ASSISTANCE REQUESTS

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